

BURIEN COMMUNITY CENTER SURVEY 2007-08
Mail Survey Comments

Why you would likely vote this way on a property tax increase/bond levy to BUILD a new center?

YES

- ♦ "If you build it they shall come" and that is the problem - overpopulation. Quit building more structures and freeways!
- ♦ A new community center would improve the area, but additional property taxes may dissuade me.
- ♦ An inviting center with pride, safety and fun for all ages - youth, middle and elder to interact together
- ♦ Anything that betters a city dwelling is money well spent.
- ♦ As many voters as possible should join together to get this built
- ♦ Because Burien needs a new recreation center
- ♦ Because Burien's community center facility is an embarrassment to all of us. It is old and has very few amenities that attract the youth and help to increase a feeling of community.
- ♦ Because it is needed.
- ♦ Because our senior citizens need a safe place to socialize and our young people need positive activities to keep them busy and out of gangs.
- ♦ Burien is up and coming. Needs a clean up to date community center for everyone. Let's continue to clean up Burien!
- ♦ Burien needs it.
- ♦ But would like the "activities" fees affordable, and discounted to residents do not make these fees too high!
- ♦ Community center essential to revitalizing Burien and keeping people occupied in positive activities away from their couches and drugs
- ♦ Concentrate fully on one issue and get it done
- ♦ Construction costs will only go up in time. I work construction, I vote 'yes' on all construction. I want Burien to grow!
- ♦ Definitely past due
- ♦ Depending on what the tax will cost the homeowner
- ♦ Depends on how much property taxes would go up, for the whole project
- ♦ Don't know the inflation projections but too often they are underestimated. Delays always seem to cost more.
- ♦ Get it done at the same time
- ♦ Good concepts
- ♦ Good for the community
- ♦ Good for the community - would want to make sure the cost estimates would not inflate too much.
- ♦ Good investment for the community
- ♦ I believe it would be a great addition to Burien, more lap lanes in the pool would be great.
- ♦ I believe that rebuilding a community will be a positive addition to people's lives. It will give them a new place to go and exercise when the weather is crummy.
- ♦ I feel community centers are great for ALL people in the area. It doesn't matter what age group either.
- ♦ I know is very important to have a modern and up to code rec/community center for all ages, but how many of us can afford \$180 more for taxes. It's like a double-edged sword.
- ♦ I like the idea of a new community center, but there are important issues not addressed in this long brochure.
- ♦ I support the plan.
- ♦ I think a community center is a great idea BUT!! we're being taxed to death
- ♦ I think a community that is rebuilding and remodeling as Burien, needs a modern functioning community center
- ♦ I think this is great and would help out a lot of people

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- ♦ I worry that once a levy is charged, the city will always want money, even though that project is over.
- ♦ I would enjoy the inside jogging track and the pool. We need more indoor facilities with extended hours.
- ♦ I would use it. Need to if a lap pool is included.
- ♦ If it's built with sustainable materials and in an environmentally proactive manner, then I approve.
- ♦ I'm all for improvement of community center, helps to make Burien a premier city in a so king county.
- ♦ I'm tired of long drawn out projects. Let's jump in and get it done ASAP.
- ♦ In favor of community improvements
- ♦ It is long overdue, we need a quality community center to enhance the new Burien.
- ♦ It is needed. It would be an asset to the Burien Community.
- ♦ It makes sense and is a good plan, Plan A saves money.
- ♦ It sounds like a GREAT investment for our community!
- ♦ It's badly needed, won't get any cheaper!
- ♦ It's near my home and needs update
- ♦ It's needed.
- ♦ It's okay to use some tax money this way as long as the ratio to other expenditures.
- ♦ Length of increase, based on assess value? With value going down, is that best funding option?
- ♦ Lots of money to pay for
- ♦ Need good gym
- ♦ Need info on final proposed funding for entire project
- ♦ Needs to be built
- ♦ New building is needed.
- ♦ New facilities would benefit Burien residents. Current facilities are inadequate.
- ♦ Old building needs update and offer better venues
- ♦ Our community needs updating badly
- ♦ Parks and rec facilities in Burien are almost non-existent (sic). This facility would provide for all ages.
- ♦ Probably because the new center is needed and the sooner, the better. Why do you hyphenate property tax increase bond measures? (one or the other)
- ♦ Provide safe environment at lowest cost.
- ♦ Seems right
- ♦ Sounds great, excellent use for property taxes
- ♦ Sounds like new building is needed.
- ♦ Such a building is very necessary to our community and should be done all at once
- ♦ The city needs this
- ♦ The city needs this project - especially a pool
- ♦ The community needs to pay for this, not anyone else.
- ♦ The new center would have facilities to cover more people's interests and needs
- ♦ The older I get, the more I see that we have a need for this facility
- ♦ The proposed center uses tax money to compete with existing private Burien facilities available at a similar cost to tax amount.
- ♦ The rest of the town is getting a facelift, why not this?
- ♦ These amenities are an important part of a revitalized Burien, more families moving in area need them
- ♦ Things change. Looks good now.
- ♦ This center and the programs housed there will add to the quality of our community
- ♦ This is the type of facility Burien needs - not a new library!

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Why you would likely vote this way on a property tax increase/bond levy to BUILD a new center?

- ♦ This type of center is a vital need for this city and its citizens
- ♦ This would certainly add to the revitalization of Burien and I'm very supportive and hopeful of the entire effort - plus, facilities are needed
- ♦ Want community center to be good
- ♦ Watching Seahurst transform itself it exciting, all for adding amenities to the city, adding vibrancy

- ♦ We are a large city. Burien is being rebuilt. We need this to make our city a great place to live. The old community center is not inviting.
- ♦ We are in need of a nice community center
- ♦ We have three children and there are no facilities close to our house which has a swimming and pool facility. We have to drive to the West Seattle YMCA.
- ♦ We live in unincorporated North Highline and would prefer annexation to Burien - not Seattle.
- ♦ We need a community center, later add recreation, too many taxes will scare folks away.
- ♦ We need a public recreation that is up to date and be proud of.
- ♦ We need to continue to promote health and wellness in our community.
- ♦ We would like a recreation facility in town and know that we as homeowners would need to pay for it

- ♦ We would use community center
- ♦ Would benefit the recreational use for the Burien community
- ♦ Would create more for youth and elderly to participate in, also increase home value
- ♦ Would improve the "feel" and culture of Burien
- ♦ Would make Burien a better place to live and increase property taxes
- ♦ Would want to look around area where it is to be built to see how the entire area looks
- ♦ Yes!! This would increase the value of our home by having such an attractive city - a new recreation facility is a must!!

NO

- ♦ As a senior citizen, we cannot afford additional taxes on property.
- ♦ Because although the idea is great that means higher tax increase and that's why I would say "no."

- ♦ Because of my limited income in 2008 due to retirement
- ♦ Because we are being taxed too! much now. Why don't you charge the future owners of Town Square property taxes to pay for this building!
- ♦ Can't afford any more additional taxes - will not be able to live in Burien
- ♦ City needs to show current community center is being used everyday to its maximum capacity. \$15/mo = \$180/year!!! Outrageous! prop tax increase. \$180/yr is more than my current 24 hr gym membership!
- ♦ City of Burien needs to develop commercial and business oriented facilities to generate tax income not spend money it does not have on recreational properties that create more cost in maintenance

- ♦ Costs always escalate - as a person on a fixed income - any increase in tax takes food off my table!!

- ♦ Dislike tax increases, let me join a club if I desire a recreation facility
- ♦ Don't use center, current economic outlook is poor.
- ♦ Excessive taxation
- ♦ Exhaustive search of existing alternative sites, e.g. use Highline H.S., Sylvester Middle School, etc.

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Why you would likely vote this way on a property tax increase/bond levy to BUILD a new center?

- ♦ Feel it's not needed
- ♦ Greatest need is NOT for recreation
- ♦ I am a senior and a fixed income and tax increases are high enough as is, this is not a necessity.

- ♦ I am on Social Security
- ♦ I am sick of taxes - levys are the bulk amount owing on prop. taxes
- ♦ I can't afford my house tax now!
- ♦ I don't live in Burien and I wouldn't support the facility by an increase in my taxes.
- ♦ I feel we don't need one.
- ♦ I live on my social security check in a HUD building, every time property taxes goes up, so does my rent.
- ♦ I would want extra money to go to schools!
- ♦ I'm tired of property owners footing the bill for everyone in Burien. I'd rather see an increase in sales tax so all of the apartment dwellers can feel the pain too.
- ♦ In all my years here - I have not had the need or desire to use a community center
- ♦ Increase sales tax! Everyone pays. Business tax, profit pays! I'm selling my house this spring I can not afford 6,000 per year tax and going up. (sic)
- ♦ Let's finish what we've started with town square and roads before adding more taxes
- ♦ Let's fix all the bumpy roads, there is no reason for all the bad contractors.
- ♦ Looks like poor design - flat roof?!?! What guarantee that construction won't be faulty and result in costly repairs? Like many of the schools.
- ♦ More efficient use of existing funds
- ♦ My property taxes are already too high and it's unlikely my family would use the facility.
- ♦ My taxes escalate every year. I need to control the only way I know how.
- ♦ No additional property taxes
- ♦ Our taxes are already too high
- ♦ Property tax already to (sic) high and we are on a limited income
- ♦ Property taxes are already to high (sic)
- ♦ State income tax! Be fair!
- ♦ Taxes are too high now.
- ♦ Taxes are too high now. Community center should be re-evaluated - too extravagant for area.
- ♦ Term of such/evy
- ♦ The old building has been just fine for many years
- ♦ Think we are funding too much as it is. Roads could use this funding more.
- ♦ This sound like luxury spending, it could be used on better items like sidewalks for stronger communities.
- ♦ This would raise my property tax around \$20/month
- ♦ Too expensive for a town like Burien with its limited tax base - a Taj Mahal - maybe 8.1 million
- ♦ Too many property taxes already! Take some off, then I might consider voting for new ones.
- ♦ Too many taxes already
- ♦ Too many tax's - not getting enough for the money
- ♦ Town Square costs are not firm. Would not agree on bond until Town Square is complete.
- ♦ Underground utilities and sidewalks should be done first
- ♦ Use your YMCA and other
- ♦ We already pay more than enough. Burien must seek ways to lower our taxes, not raise them.

- ♦ We already pay too much property tax, don't need other information
- ♦ We are busy building new schools and my present taxes are over \$1000 per month
- ♦ We cannot afford any more taxes. This must stop now.
- ♦ We do not feel the City, the council/Mayor knows how to manage and spend money wisely. The First Ave. construction has been handled poorly.

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Why you would likely vote this way on a property tax increase/bond levy to BUILD a new center?

- ♦ We have enough property tax now! Would like to stay in our home until we die.
- ♦ We need practical additions to Burien. All the additions are for city officials or library which is fine, the old one is still good - people in Burien are middle to poor and you only offer things to the wealthy.
- ♦ What about using "city center" buildings? Not sure we'd currently use it unless plays or events were held there. Therefore, why pay for something I might not use vs. good of community, a tax dilemma?
- ♦ Why no option without water pool?? Evergreen, Mt. Rainier and new YMCA will have pool - too big an expense for Burien.
- ♦ Why when you are tearing down good buildings to build others do you think I would raise my taxes for this!
- ♦ Would not use facility, do not want higher taxes

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UNCERTAIN

- ♦ \$15 a month seems high. I would like to know how many months would the tax increase be for.
- ♦ Because most community center located in south offices are not multicultural, we need employment inclusive as well as activities that represent community in Burien.
- ♦ Currently don't own a home, but if I didn I'd want to know how it affects my total property tax.
- ♦ I would not vote for this facility as outlined. We need a new facility, but I do not support any water feature in the facility and I do not understand with such a facility was not even suggested.
- ♦ I would very much like to see this new facility for our community, however this will cost me about \$50 a month which is ten times more than I can afford. This region (state) needs to find a better taxing system. My property taxes over the last 4 years have increased at a rate of \$1200 a year - NO MORE.
- ♦ I would vote either way until the city specifies plan D alternate sites.
- ♦ I would want to know exactly how much my taxes would go up in order to decide if I could afford to support it
- ♦ It's the most economical.
- ♦ Live in Normandy Part is that in the taxing district?
- ♦ More detail info of ADA requirement services better clear enlarged pictures. Accessibility to rooms, pools.
- ♦ My taxes are WAY too high right now!
- ♦ Pool is superfluous and costly. What are anticipated fees for use of facilities?
- ♦ Property taxes are already high and we are taxed on everything. I feel taxed out!!!

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Would you be more likely to support a bond measure if funds were included for parks/rec improvements?

YES

- ♦ A new community center would improve the area, but additional property taxes may dissuade me.
- ♦ A whole improvement plan would be great but needs to include all neighborhoods.
- ♦ Again, conscious decision on green building please!
- ♦ Again, I need to see the community represented meaning knowledge of immigrant community especially African, there is large population in Burien.
- ♦ Again, I think Burien as a whole would benefit from all upgrades in the park system.
- ♦ All the parks need restroom improvement!
- ♦ Another great investment for our community!
- ♦ Because it would improve the parks for future citizens
- ♦ Better for community
- ♦ Build center first, use any leftover money to repair current parks.
- ♦ Burien and surrounding communities have been neglected way too long - need to change "perception" of South...!
- ♦ Community center needs to be #1 priority. Parks are great, but serve small portion of city.
- ♦ Cost to each tax payer
- ♦ Depends upon overall cost for taxpayers
- ♦ Do it at once - timing is in keeping with other improvements in Burien.
- ♦ Higher home value
- ♦ How much more per month on top of the \$22 - ?
- ♦ I can't afford my house tax now!
- ♦ I do not take my son to parks because I consider them unsafe
- ♦ I enjoy the parks, Seahurst, etc. I believe families would benefit from improved facilities.
- ♦ I enjoy the space and be physically active and restrooms are always needed away from home.
- ♦ I support a better Burien
- ♦ I think we should find other ways to do this like volunteer campaigns and such and get the community involved
- ♦ I took my kids to park by library and it was scary and dirty, with needles - need SAFE spaces for families outside
- ♦ I use parks as part of exercise program.
- ♦ I use the park, dog parks would be needed also.
- ♦ I use the parks and support all parks in general for healthy family activities outside in the fresh air.
- ♦ I will support more money for native plant restoration of our parks. I will also support money to buy more open space.
- ♦ I would definitely support parks and improvements thereof, but not if linked to this facility as it has been proposed.
- ♦ I would like to live in a nice and safe environment.
- ♦ I would need detail like this to help me decide.
- ♦ If needed
- ♦ Improved opportunities for quality of neighborhood life
- ♦ Improvements need to be done all the time. Let them go for a while and the problem gets much more expensive.
- ♦ In favor of community improvements
- ♦ Kids love parks and it's a wonderful place to take them. Would like them clean and secure!
- ♦ Makes the city nicer
- ♦ My current economic outlook
- ♦ Need more specifics
- ♦ Need to be annexed to Burien, already utilize Burien services, recreations and businesses
- ♦ Neighborhood parks are important to support communities recreational amenities.
- ♦ No kidding. Take a look at other communities around Puget Sound. Burien is sorely-lacking.
- ♦ Open spaces for all especially children are important

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Would you be more likely to support a bond measure if funds were included for parks/rec improvements?

- ♦ Parks and playgrounds are an important part of daily life
- ♦ Parks are the link to bringing a community together and promote the health and well being of the people

- ♦ Parks can use updating, especially anticipating a population increase.
- ♦ Parks do need improvement
- ♦ Seahurst Park definitely needs upgraded restrooms.
- ♦ The city needs this
- ♦ The cost is lower earlier than later due to inflation
- ♦ The improvements are needed and help everyone
- ♦ The money barrel for the city never fills up - the money just keeps getting sucked out.
- ♦ The more upgrading and positive public offerings a community has, the more desirable the community

- ♦ The public amenities are great for the city.
- ♦ There should be minor costs included in normal operating budgets.
- ♦ They need to improve parks/restrooms and also make more security on-site to stop "gang" shootings, etc.
- ♦ This is too large a tax increase, we might have to move! King County taxes are already too high!
- ♦ We are outdoor people and will benefit from these
- ♦ We live near Chelsea Park, it is a well used park thanks to the bathrooms, ball diamond and playground. Its upgrade is wonderful for all of us.
- ♦ We need safe places for our children to play.
- ♦ We use local parks with our children
- ♦ We use the parks/playgrounds weekly around Burien - PLEASE build a new rec center and improve our neighborhood parks!!
- ♦ We would use these amenities. I'd most likely vote yes if it were only the above improvements/repairs and not the new rec center.
- ♦ Why not?
- ♦ Why wait? Prices just go up, get it done now
- ♦ Would benefit the recreational use for the Burien community, safer walking trails
- ♦ Would vote for repairs. New improvements might need to wait. Can't have it all.
- ♦ Yes, Burien also needs a boat launch giving access to Puget Sound at Seahurst Park
- ♦ Young and old people of all need a place to go that's in good conditions hopefully it will pass and teens would use and keep them off the streets and head in the right direction. Seniors need to keep active and people to visit.

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NO

- ♦ "Need?" Stop wasting money on parks no one uses. I live 1 block from the new Ambaum Park - empty!
- ♦ A lot of these parks could be improved with neighborhood work parties and minimal \$ support for supplies.
- ♦ Add really not interested. The new playground down the street is now attracting litter, noise and vandalism.
- ♦ Although admirable eagle landing is a stairway to nowhere, too steep for seniors, impossible for dogs, no usable beach at bottom
- ♦ Believe Burien is way over expended on costs.
- ♦ Cost too high
- ♦ Do not increase the size of parks, these are a \$ pit
- ♦ Don't package them in with this building! Vote on those items separately!
- ♦ Don't use center, current economic outlook is poor.
- ♦ Economy slowdown
- ♦ Every year taxes go up and I'm sick of it.
- ♦ Everything recreational for "show" only! Let's get real! We have no department store, hardware, dollar, family meals or many other rents are too high/
- ♦ I feel we don't need one.
- ♦ I think a park bond should be separate from the center bond
- ♦ I would pass on this \$50/mo tax increase to my renters. I can afford a private club for the cost of this public one.
- ♦ I'm being tax (sic) out of my home now
- ♦ I'm tired of property owners footing the bill for everyone in Burien. I'd rather see an increase in sales tax so all of the apartment dwellers can feel the pain too.
- ♦ Let me know how much it will cost to maintain present parks etc. and will make judgment on that alone
- ♦ Let's do one issue for one measure!
- ♦ Let's focus on what this survey's about
- ♦ Limited income
- ♦ Mixing funds and usage means less accountability for either prospect.
- ♦ Money raised is not used wisely or where they are necessary.
- ♦ Monies never go where the voters want, so why keep trying to fund any improvements
- ♦ My taxes are too high already - if they get much higher, I will have to move
- ♦ Other things are more important to me!
- ♦ Our property taxes are SO high now that these repairs should already be covered!
- ♦ Our property taxes are too high now.
- ♦ Park improvements should be separate! "Bundling" makes it easy to manipulate funds and cause cost overruns.
- ♦ Parks should have own bond measure and choice of items to be funded
- ♦ Should be on separate bonds. More likely to pass that way.
- ♦ State income tax! Be fair!
- ♦ Tax the people who are for it, not those who don't want it.
- ♦ Taxed to death
- ♦ Taxed to death
- ♦ The above issues need to be taken care of whether we get a new center or not. Please don't confuse the note on the center by throwing in other issues.
- ♦ The current parks need repair in part to vandals - I don't take my kids to playgrounds any more due to the number of needles and condoms on the ground - need to stop the problem before repairing
- ♦ The property taxes will drive me out of my home

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- ♦ There is so much being done now with Gran Bridge project.
- ♦ These things I support being done, but should be a separate issue. Keep in focus.
- ♦ They are 2 separate issues. I would like to know exactly what I'm paying for. If you want my money, I want to see/understand what the benefit will be. How long will the improvements last.
- ♦ This local government has known for how many years that this issue was out there - and failed to plan for it! So government take the money out of your salaries to pay for it!
- ♦ This should come from separate areas.
- ♦ To have accountability for \$\$ being spent I like to see bond measures separate
- ♦ Too many other concerns for us old folks to think about
- ♦ Too many taxes
- ♦ Too much like an open door to spend, spend, spend
- ♦ Too much to ask for one time
- ♦ Wait till the recession is over
- ♦ We already pay for this - where is the money and why are they not kept up?
- ♦ We already pay more than enough. Burien must seek ways to lower our taxes, not raise them.
- ♦ We already pay too much property tax, don't need other information
- ♦ We are being taxed to death - I'm tired of paying for other people's recreations - I must move! I've lived here 75 years.
- ♦ We cannot afford any more taxes. This must stop now.
- ♦ We have enough parks in Burien
- ♦ We need to watch our tax's (sic) - \$15 per month is a large increase without adding more tax's
- ♦ When too many items are added, people are inclined to vote no such as for the Roads and Transit Initiative.
- ♦ Would not use facility, do not want higher taxes
- ♦ You bought the property for Mathison Park. I've only seen about four people there all summer?

UNCERTAIN

- ♦ Again, I would love to support any measured tax increase, but with other costs increasing, i.e. heating oil, I would need to know exact dollars and cents
- ♦ City parks are good now.
- ♦ Cost (tax)
- ♦ First things first. Let us concentrate on the community center first then work the other projects in later.

- ♦ How much would it add to project? Taxes?
- ♦ I don't think I would want to raise the cost to taxpayers
- ♦ I need more information - what neighborhood parks
- ♦ I would need to see a list of the top unmet needs in Parks and Recreation or for Burien in general. I need some sense of prioritizing, not just individual needs/projects in a vacuum.
- ♦ If they had the funds needed, I don't see why not, but yes there's some unsureness
- ♦ More info on cost and what improvements
- ♦ Parks and playgrounds are important, but money could be spent in other areas.
- ♦ Taxes are already too high, but divided or uncertain until I learn more.
- ♦ Timeframes and secure budgets which are all well managed and provide accountability are essential.

- ♦ What are the specific costs?
- ♦ Would like to see a plan before supporting it - and make sure it's efficient

BURIEN COMMUNITY CENTER SURVEY 2007-08
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Why you would likely vote this way on a property tax increase to OPERATE a new center?

YES

- ♦ 8% increase seems a bit steep for maintenance of the recreation center?
- ♦ Again - adds to quality of community; cannot let building deteriorate
- ♦ Again, I think Burien as a whole would benefit from all upgrades in the park system.
- ♦ Always wary of tax increases but these changes are necessary
- ♦ Are there other areas where we can added operating support besides increasing existing property tax.
- ♦ Because it's necessary for Burien's future expansion
- ♦ Bottom - what would these operating fees include and why so much? I suggest volunteers from community.
- ♦ Center needs to retain quality staff
- ♦ Creates jobs, keeps property running well
- ♦ Current staff is doing double duty. Need new people to take some of the workload.
- ♦ Don't build it if you can't maintain it. Fees, user and rentals, should help.
- ♦ For improvement for the children
- ♦ Good for the neighborhood improvement
- ♦ I am in support of the whole concept and understand that funding is necessary to make it happen and flourish
- ♦ I really believe in a community center.
- ♦ I strongly feel we need to support programs that offer needed activities for our youth and seniors

- ♦ I would like to live in a nice and safe environment.
- ♦ I would prefer another method besides property taxes. Paying more for property taxes is not favorable.
- ♦ If maintenance tax was after build tax
- ♦ If needed
- ♦ If you build it, you have to run it.
- ♦ I'll support since staff would be necessary.
- ♦ I'm trusting you to not waste the money.
- ♦ Is the Burien Live Theatre included in space plans for the new center? We volunteer there.
- ♦ It could not be a community center if no one was operating or/and maintaining it.
- ♦ It seems reasonable to pay extra 13 cents.
- ♦ It's best if the center works well for it to get its full usage and benefit the community.
- ♦ It's not that much for the support to be given.
- ♦ It's worth the benefits received in the long run.
- ♦ Need to maintain once built
- ♦ Need to operate it once it's built
- ♦ Needs new venues
- ♦ No point in building if it can't be run
- ♦ No sense building something if we don't maintain it
- ♦ Obviously someone is needed to run the show, so I would be in favor if this tax increase.
- ♦ Only if all inclusive
- ♦ Operating fees increase each year
- ♦ Seems a good "small" enough amount that would help out, but not take too much from the resident

- ♦ Seems a reasonable amount of money for operating support
- ♦ Sound like this would create jobs - maybe a position for myself. We need work for residents of Burien.
- ♦ Staff is a priority to run a safe and productive center.
- ♦ The proposed center uses tax money to compete with existing private Burien facilities available at a similar cost to tax amount.

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- ♦ Things need to be maintained - would like to see proposal before "definitely" approving.
- ♦ This is a 9% increase in city taxes. This question would have been a lot easier to answer if you related it to cost per 1000 of assessment like in the other illustrations.
- ♦ This one's worth it
- ♦ This will probably "sting" most of us financially, but it is something the community needs.
- ♦ Understand need to operate and new building would need more attention to keep it nice.
- ♦ We always have to give more, more, more. Your egos are never satisfied. You get into office and start spending millions of dollars, our dollars when will we ever get someone to go into office and just say - let's keep things?
- ♦ We live in a rainy climate and we need more facilities to keep our kids active.
- ♦ We need it.
- ♦ We need the center
- ♦ We would like to see additional options to cover this cost
- ♦ What good is a new and improved community center if there is no one to run its daily operations?

- ♦ Why more for a building that is new and functions better? I'd need details.
- ♦ Would like to see more specifics as to what makes up the 500K
- ♦ Yes, because this project is so desperately needed. Let's get people away from their TV's and physically active!
- ♦ You/we need some operating staff
- ♦ You're going to spend this kind of money to build it you darn well better spend the money to operate and maintain it.

NO

- ♦ 13 cents sounds insignificant - it's an 8% increase in property tax rate
- ♦ Centers never manage well and fall in disrepair, let the YMCA or something that knows how to manage one do it.
- ♦ Cost estimate seems very high.
- ♦ Economy slowdown
- ♦ Expenses never stop going up
- ♦ Geez! You've already increased the tax package 3 times in this survey! Definitely voting no!
- ♦ Government bureaucracy (sic) does not operate in a dollar and cents efficient manner to much overhead
- ♦ How about an accounting of all the money being spent? All we hear is "gimmie-gimmie!" I need an accounting before I vote for more taxes!
- ♦ I feel we don't need one.
- ♦ I know I'm lucky to be a property owner but it seems property owners bear a lot of the burden when paying for things.
- ♦ If this facility is the only proposal, I don not support it.
- ♦ Income tax! The only fair tax!
- ♦ Increases in property taxes out of line already
- ♦ It sounds like too big of a percent of increase compared to the existing rate.
- ♦ Let the people who use it pay for it! We did that for our family years ago.
- ♦ More amenities means more people moving here to an already overcrowded urban area.
- ♦ Need to do bond or tax increase - two potential property tax increases is too much
- ♦ Not on this project
- ♦ Proposed funding too extravagant
- ♦ Should be paid with the user fees collected. Increase if necessary user fee to do so.

BURIEN COMMUNITY CENTER SURVEY 2007-08
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- ♦ Simply times are tough, it's hard enough to make the house payment.
- ♦ Taxes are already too high.
- ♦ Taxes are too high without this addition.
- ♦ The center lends nothing for the residents with incomes the level of the people living there. Wish you people would get real.
- ♦ The cost is huge. A state of the art health club fully subsidized by land owners who will then have to pay full cost to use it while people who do nothing for it use it free or at no cost is a horrible decision.

- ♦ The property owning public is tax poor, find another way
- ♦ The tax payer would subsidize the non taxpayer. The lower income non taxpayer would be the major user,
- ♦ There is no need, this is a waste!
- ♦ This is a 9% increase just to operate the community center - sounds high to me.
- ♦ Too many taxes
- ♦ Too much administration now - reshuffle existing admin.
- ♦ Too much money would be coming out of people's pockets.
- ♦ Unless there is a full sized pool, with open programs for adults, I don't want anything to do with it (\$)

- ♦ User fees should pay upkeep.
- ♦ We already pay more than enough. Burien must seek ways to lower our taxes, not raise them.

- ♦ We already pay too much property tax, don't need other information
- ♦ When I have sanitary sewers and storm drains in my area then I might consider this
- ♦ Would not use facility, do not want higher taxes

UNCERTAIN

- ♦ As long as it was 13 cents or less
- ♦ If you remove the aquatic portion do we still need a staff increase?
- ♦ Let the people who use the facility pay for it.
- ♦ Taxes keep going up but my paycheck stays the same.
- ♦ What is the \$1.51 based on? \$1.51 tax per \$1,000 property tax?

BURIEN COMMUNITY CENTER SURVEY 2007-08
Mail Survey Comments

Please tell us why you are in favor of, against or uncertain about the fee structure

YES

- ♦ \$5.00 for residents seems reasonable.
- ♦ A fee structure might be something better decided later
- ♦ A monthly fee option should be available.
- ♦ At this point, it seems reasonable.
- ♦ Cost
- ♦ Covers people. What about hall rentals for parties? dinners?
- ♦ Create some fee for people with disabilities.
- ♦ Depends on residency status of the North Highline area
- ♦ Facility pass with classes sign up, etc. Other options? Passes frequent user discounts
- ♦ Favor of fees seems reasonable for usage of center
- ♦ Fees sound very reasonable, worth the money to have something fun near by
- ♦ Good idea, help pay for center and employees
- ♦ I am a senior and low user fee would be good
- ♦ I can use Sea-Tac without these fees
- ♦ I like it.
- ♦ I like the idea of monthly and annual passes
- ♦ I like the option of monthly membership discounts, and as long as low-income. Attendees are allowed discounts I feel it will work well.
- ♦ I like the volunteer option and not denying because you have limited funds.
- ♦ I lived in Oregon before money to Seattle. They had wonderful facilities with user fees. It makes sense to charge to users.
- ♦ I think the user fees are acceptable but I would please ask that you would allow the senior rate to include disabled folks
- ♦ I won't be using the place.
- ♦ I would not use many of those features but I know others would
- ♦ I'd like to see what the frequent use fee would be,
- ♦ I'm fully supportive of what ever is necessary to make this a success.
- ♦ I'm in favor as long as it doesn't get above \$5
- ♦ In comparison, for these kinds of facilities these are fair fees
- ♦ It helps keep the place in top conditions and it's a fair proposition.
- ♦ It is fair and appropriate for the users to pay. Some "scholarship" funding should be made available for low income, disadvantaged youth so they could use the facility.
- ♦ It looks competitive with private facilities.
- ♦ It seems that when Burien tax dollars build it that user fees should be less.
- ♦ It should support itself.
- ♦ It takes money to run facilities.
- ♦ It will encourage people to use private facilities.
- ♦ It's reasonable and helps offset the cost by those using the center.
- ♦ It's fair, people who use facilities pay for them and inexpensive.
- ♦ It's more than reasonable, very inexpensive.
- ♦ It's reasonable.
- ♦ I've been taking, and now assist in teaching a class at the current facility. Our class has been here for most of the last 10 years. How will the new facility effect the cost of our class? Will we still have a reasonable priced place in the new facility?
- ♦ Looks reasonable, maybe reduce adult from \$5 to \$4.
- ♦ More user fees - stop burdening property owners for everything
- ♦ Need to pay operations of upkeep
- ♦ Need to recover some of the expenses (sic)
- ♦ Needs to be competitive
- ♦ No free lunch!

BURIEN COMMUNITY CENTER SURVEY 2007-08
Mail Survey Comments

Please tell us why you are in favor of, against or uncertain about the fee structure

- ♦ Nothing's free.
- ♦ Our family would be more interested in obtaining a yearly pass for an entire family.
- ♦ People that use the center pay for it
- ♦ People use it, pay for it
- ♦ People who use facilities should bear costs.
- ♦ Persons who use facility should pay for use
- ♦ Prices are fair and everyone should be able to afford.
- ♦ Prices seem reasonable, but shouldn't apply to participants paying for a class or activity.
- ♦ Pursuing other operating revenue sources
- ♦ Reasonable fee for gym and pool
- ♦ Reasonable price. How about annual fees?
- ♦ Resident 5/day, nonresident 10/day
- ♦ Seems affordable for people to have a place to use
- ♦ Seems fair
- ♦ Seems fair
- ♦ Should also have an annual or monthly membership fee option
- ♦ Should be higher for non-residents and nothing for seniors!
- ♦ Someone has to pay - why not those who use it
- ♦ Sounds fair to me
- ♦ Sounds like a good idea for those who use it to pay for it
- ♦ Sounds reasonable
- ♦ Start now - using fees to fund new center
- ♦ Strong believer in user fees for operational expenses
- ♦ Subject to usage, for one activity it may be high.
- ♦ That's a pretty reasonable fee
- ♦ The fee schedule is pretty low considering the options, although most people that live in the area would probably be able to afford a day for of \$2.00.
- ♦ The fee seems reasonable, should have a monthly rate
- ♦ The fee structure seems very fair
- ♦ The fees are very reasonable
- ♦ The fees could be reduced some with regards to using the facility several times a week and for families.
- ♦ The fees should be structured differently for use of basketball, walking, etc. \$3 for adult, \$1.50 youth/senior, \$4.50 for pool, etc.
- ♦ The ones who use the program the most will help pay for it and those who can't afford it can still use the facilities
- ♦ The per day fee needs to be very affordable
- ♦ The prices are fair.
- ♦ The user fee seems similar to other parks dept. programs in other cities that we have used
- ♦ The whole Seattle area does not have a pool like this for kids.
- ♦ They seem fair - perhaps there can be some kind of discount if people buy a monthly pass or punch ticket kind of offering
- ♦ They seem reasonable.
- ♦ This would offset upkeep. Also would put cost on those who use.
- ♦ Those that can need to pay. We will need some sort of subsidy for low income children and seniors.

- ♦ Those who use it should pay for it!
- ♦ Too expensive, senior rate should apply to ages over 55 and what rates for fixed or low incomes? Walking track should be free.
- ♦ User fee would make it more self supporting.

BURIEN COMMUNITY CENTER SURVEY 2007-08
Mail Survey Comments

Please tell us why you are in favor of, against or uncertain about the fee structure

- ♦ Users should support limited usage! Users that pay will be "better" (less damage) users. It too many scholarships, likely for vandalism.
- ♦ Very fair price for use of facilities
- ♦ Very reasonable
- ♦ Very reasonable costs
- ♦ Very reasonable fees as shown
- ♦ We do not and have never used the Burien Community Center.
- ♦ We would use the facility this way we would not be under a contract. Looking forward to the new community center - we have never used a community center, never thought about it before.

- ♦ When you use the facility you support it. I would also favor a yearly membership fee, perhaps pro-rated for families, seniors, students, city employees, teachers, Microsoft employees.
- ♦ Would like to see a higher differential for non residents since they are no paying for the bond issue.

- ♦ You need revenue.
- ♦ Young people need some free and fun places to go/

BURIEN COMMUNITY CENTER SURVEY 2007-08
Mail Survey Comments

Please tell us why you are in favor of, against or uncertain about the fee structure

NO

- ♦ A little high for adult resident
- ♦ Already to be paying taxes \$15 p/m
- ♦ As a homeowner being asked to pay for this center, I feel the resident fee is to high. We have already paid for the center, it belongs to us.
- ♦ Because there are many of us who can not afford the fee, Burien, represent poor community as well as rich.
- ♦ Collect tax money, save up enough to start slowly
- ♦ Community center should be provided classes separate charge - weight or machines - maybe charge

- ♦ Cost too much money
- ♦ Fees are too low.
- ♦ I am a senior and a fixed income and tax increases are high enough as is, this is not a necessity.

- ♦ I am concerned that people in Burien do not have money to pay fees
- ♦ I can see charging for meeting room, to a point - depending how many people etc., but you are going to have to be careful on how much you charge or people won't come to these places. As far as parks, etc. go that's one of the few places people can afford to go.
- ♦ I presently pay for classes and would be happy to do so again, but a community center should be open to citizens, just to meet, socialize, etc. without a fee.
- ♦ I think 65+ and youth should be free.
- ♦ I would not be able to afford access
- ♦ I would rather pay a larger fee when and if I decide to use
- ♦ I wouldn't have the money.
- ♦ If residents of Burien are paying an additional 13-cent increase to property taxes, why do we have to pay a user fee? The pool, gym, fitness rooms and track should be free to residents. Otherwise, don't request more property taxes. I won't vote for both.
- ♦ If tax is to be collected over 30 years by every household then this should be enough
- ♦ If this is built (what a waste of money) than it should be free for kids.
- ♦ If you are going to have this thing then no fees should be charged. This is a waste of time and money to implement. The overhead should just be part of our city property taxes.
- ♦ If you build this Taj Mahal, fees should be double than those proposed.
- ♦ I'm okay with the fee structure except for the senior residents (65+). I feel it should be lower.
- ♦ It should be for public use with no fee
- ♦ Need details of "business plan"
- ♦ No free bee's
- ♦ Not everyone can afford to pay
- ♦ Not sure how many people would be interested in community center
- ♦ People that live in Burien should pay nothing of 1/2 suggest fee and non-residents should pick up the differences.
- ♦ People with low income will not be able to use the facility.
- ♦ Per day fee is great than existing "for profit" facilities in Burien now!
- ♦ Seniors have already paid their fair share of taxes/they should be exempt
- ♦ Seniors have limited income and this extra charge is too much
- ♦ Should be \$4 for adult, \$2.50 youth, \$2 senior. You can belong to a club and only have to pay \$29 for the whole month - please do not have too pricey of user fees.
- ♦ The citizens of this state are over-taxed as it is.
- ♦ The cost should be offset at least 80% by those using it. 100% is what all other health clubs have to do.
- ♦ These fees are not high enough to amortize the cost to build, plus the c0st to operate and maintain.

BURIEN COMMUNITY CENTER SURVEY 2007-08
Mail Survey Comments

Please tell us why you are in favor of, against or uncertain about the fee structure

- ♦ Too high! We want people to use it and enjoy. Don't price us out. Reduce each fee a couple of bucks. \$1.50 for youth and senior.
- ♦ Too much, can increase fees later!
- ♦ User fees are not a solution. Better management is better.
- ♦ We are already paying for such with property taxes.
- ♦ Will be filled with unsupervised kids who have no respect for adults - no thanks!
- ♦ With 100 people - resident or nonresident - at 50% utilization would generate \$12,000 per month -this will barely pay upkeep
- ♦ Would favor lower senior rate
- ♦ Would like to see the fee be about \$3 a day/resident and maybe \$5-6/nonresident
- ♦ Would likely eliminate many young and elderly users. Would annual/monthly memberships be possible?
- ♦ Would need to see monthly/yearly costs, this is way more than any local gym.

UNCERTAIN

- ♦ A fee structure is necessary, at this time it is impossible to estimate.
- ♦ Being a non-resident, I'd like to see info on the annual/monthly passes. I use the center a lot now and don't want to be priced out.
- ♦ Create impact fees charged to developers. Establish fees reflective of actual cost. Look for ways to create multiple use, i.e. school/comm. center.
- ♦ Don't know costs to run and maintain center.
- ♦ General youth activities should be free - such as existing skateboard park
- ♦ How does this match with a predominantly low income area?
- ♦ I think the whole Town Square is a great big mistake.
- ♦ I would like to have a monthly charge.
- ♦ No knowledge of how adequate these fees will be to raise the needed amount or what the estimate of users is.
- ♦ Pay for use is reasonable - providing a lower fee for those who are retired
- ♦ Seniors should not have to pay, especially over age 70.
- ♦ What would the rate be to make it self-sustaining?

BURIEN COMMUNITY CENTER SURVEY 2007-08
Mail Survey Comments

Additional suggestions or comments

- ♦ Are there other sources of funding besides property tax?
- ♦ Burien needs new improvements.
- ♦ Can't afford any more taxes
- ♦ Care should be taken not to duplicate services with new Highline YMCA
- ♦ City of Burien doesn't seem to do much to support or promote the BLTheater.
- ♦ City of Burien needs movie theatre!!! Burien is the only city in King Co. without one!
- ♦ City of Tukwila has about half the population of Burien and their community center is huge with lots of programs.
- ♦ Community theater has been a part of Burien and the community center for years. Are they not part of our new center? The performing arts are an important part of Burien. A 200 seat theater area could accommodate BLT, dance schools, jazz hands, chorus, orchestra, church programs.
- ♦ Create ways to get there that are "green" paths to bike or walk to it, frequent/easy bus access.
- ♦ Delay any construction until after the multiple projects currently underway are completed. It is stressing local businesses and citizens to have so much of Burien torn up in the area of 1st Ave to 4th Ave. There are fewer and fewer uninterrupted routes through town anymore. Some days, it's impossible to get to the post office! Too much construction, going on at the same time and for too long of a period of time. Tearing up the Burien Com Center would increase the challenge even more.

- ♦ Do it the cheapest way. Something worth paying for.
- ♦ Don't include the pool facility. I work in maintaining large buildings and have found pools to be very expensive to maintain and are prone to problems.
- ♦ Eliminate pool, exercise room.
- ♦ Every vibrant city needs a great community center.
- ♦ Finish your other projects first and see they are functional
Fix the bumpy road, repairs, who are the contractors?
- ♦ Good luck I love the layout of the center.
- ♦ Great way to make Burien more attractive to families! You are headed in the right direction!
- ♦ Have you considered a design/build contract? Have you considered a fund raising committee?
Develop a new taxing system based on income and size of family. Rather bold concept for this state.

- ♦ Hope it works
- ♦ Hope that there will be space and instructors for water aerobics classes, very important for seniors, especially those with arthritis.
- ♦ Hopefully you will keep the skate board park. I like pools but aren't there several in the area already? How much would this pool be utilized. Are you examining the cost to the city for this kind of benefit. Pools are expensive and need repairs more frequently than other services.
- ♦ How about letting our taxes sit in the bank for a few years and let interest build up and then build a small recreation building. Why such excess consulting?
- ♦ I am fed up and disgusted with my tax dollars for politically correct "ethnic diversity interest" get it? (sic)
- ♦ I am totally for it. We have been in need of a new community center for years.
- ♦ I don't believe the community center needs an indoor pool (huge maint.) and an indoor walking track. Plenty of outdoor tracks.
- ♦ I don't want an increase in property taxes
- ♦ I feel if the area is clean and maintained more people will use it. Clean up Burien!! 1st Ave is driving us crazy. But we know it is for the better.
- ♦ I hope you will offer weekend or evening Jazzercise for us working women. I really enjoyed it when you offered these classes before.
- ♦ I like the idea but the property tax for funding is scary. We pay a lot for taxes already.
- ♦ I like to support community development, but building and maintaining it would cost me \$300/year. Adding in usage fees would price it about DOUBLE the cost of a fitness club.

BURIEN COMMUNITY CENTER SURVEY 2007-08
Mail Survey Comments

Additional suggestions or comments

- ♦ I love the direction Burien is headed, but are we trying to do too much at once
- ♦ I really never visited the community center, my opinion may not count to you. I am on disability and I will visit the center soon! Thank you for asking me!
- ♦ I think it would be cheaper to subsidize membership in private gyms, pools, etc.
- ♦ I think it's a wonderful idea to have a superb community center, but I don't own my home so I'm not really sure how that will affect my neighbors that do. I will tell you that in the last many years I HAVE NOT been able to afford any of the classes. I have a disabled daughter....please think about discounts for the disabled.
- ♦ I think the whole Town Square is a great big mistake.
- ♦ I think we are trying to do more than we should all at the same time - new, new, new
- ♦ I wish you had spend less money on this survey. The paper quality is too costly and colored photos are not necessary. Also, it's not on a mail-in format. I have to tear it apart to mail it in.
- ♦ I would be more inclined to come to the new center if there were substantially more children AND baby programs
- ♦ I would enjoy a new center but too often I am ask (sic) to pay for more through my taxes. The trend needs to begin to shift where homeowners are always asked to pay. Unfortunately it will mean some projects are not complete.
- ♦ I'd be more in favor of improving/expanding trails, parks, and playgrounds.
- ♦ If our schools are build and funded properly we don't need a community center.
- ♦ I'm all for it. It helps for a stronger community!
- ♦ Include cardio machines and some machines for strengthening muscles and muscle tone
- ♦ Is good idea to have community center but it needs to be inclusive of all the community that reside in Burien not only white/
- ♦ It's a great asset to our community and I support improvements.
- ♦ Keep the skate park - connection to new plaza area, library, etc.?
- ♦ Keep user fees down. This is for the community, not a private gym! Everyone should be able to afford to go! If I went 3 times a week at proposed user fee, my monthly bill would be \$60 - kinda high! I would love to have this proposed facility. We need it!
- ♦ Let's now spend any more tax money until the town center is successful. Normandy pk town center is complete now and still empty! Let's wait and see. Easy to spend tough when you go broke.

- ♦ Little gift shops and high priced condos are not the answer. You people are living in fairly land.
- ♦ Looking forward to a lovely community center that Burien can be proud of
- ♦ Looks like a great idea.
- ♦ Love the concept
- ♦ Make it top of the line - go all out! Don't settle for anything less than the best.
- ♦ Make sure the multi-purpose room could be rented out for weddings and parties - both form a furnishing appearance for greater revenue producing to offset expenses.
- ♦ Many people are tired of the grandiose, ego-driven agendas of our council members and city management. Heck, you can't even provide good police service. It's time to get back to basics!

- ♦ Many residents probably would enjoy having all of these options, but not the 2 of us
- ♦ Natural lighting (sunlight), "green" building practices, there are several good choices in conscious building
- ♦ Need to have swimming available and racquetball courts; art studio
- ♦ No but we appreciate this is being considered.
- ♦ No more high taxes!!
- ♦ No more taxes
- ♦ Only a minority of the people ever uses this stuff
- ♦ Our friends and we would likely not use these - do we really need them? Use the current library as is - we do not need a new one!

BURIEN COMMUNITY CENTER SURVEY 2007-08
Mail Survey Comments

Additional suggestions or comments

- ♦ Please, we need a new facility, decent rooms/bathrooms, a gym, activity room = not a water park. The new Highline YMCA will meet all those needs at a cost families can afford. Build our new facility, as a community center, I don't believe all the needs of seniors will be represented with completion from youth. I think you will find the seniors going elsewhere if there is too much turmoil, but if there is enough room for all activities, then there would be less problem.
- ♦ Pride of community with various activities for all ages such as garden club, quilters, Audubon information, hobby center
- ♦ Putting utilities underground to avoid our annual power outages benefits everyone. Sidewalks are a safety issue. Health clubs are a luxury.
- ♦ Question: What happened to the idea of using the existing library as a senior/community center?
- ♦ Raising the school and building a full center costs less - however, to tax every homeowner whether or not they use the center seems unfair to the elderly and low income. You have said that if they are exempt they will remain so - BUT some elders, out of embarrassment, do not ask for exemptions. Granted some elders are better off financially than "the working poor." So maybe a sliding scale....would be a better way of assessing who pays what. Pay as you use is also a good idea.

- ♦ Remodel what you have now. We have 2 other nice pools in the area.
- ♦ So far, Burien City Council is not credible.
- ♦ Sorry, am not impressed with the citizenry (sic) of Burien, especially the new immigrants that I want to give my hard-earned tax dollars to support (sic)
- ♦ Stop right now
- ♦ Thank you for sending this survey, this new community center sounds great for people of all diversity!

- ♦ The center would need to meet the community. Early and late hours and maybe onsite daycare.
- ♦ The new Highline YMCA would be competing for the same business. Would you do anything differently given that they will have similar facilities at cheaper prices?
- ♦ Too much too fast, no one will be able to afford to live here
- ♦ Try using local consultants who might be more knowledgeable about Burien and needs. Why Colorado folks?
- ♦ Use the existing library as the nucleus of the new center
- ♦ Very excited about our new Burien. It's coming back to life, being reborn, exciting times for young and old. Keep up the good work.
- ♦ Volunteers should help maintain and operate facilities. We need to encourage volunteers to participate.
- ♦ We need more activities for kids. Burien has no movie theater (the one for Town Square was eliminated), and we only have one ancient bowling alley.
- ♦ What a wonderful way to support our community. Maybe private donors could help offset some of the costs to the taxpayers?
- ♦ What about a yearly fee that would be discounted or even a monthly fee for residents
- ♦ Where is the revenue for theatre?
- ♦ Why wasn't there different options for facility. This is only one plan = so no choice - but yes or no = so no!
- ♦ Would also like to see a possibly reduced rate punchcard or reduced rate monthly option
- ♦ Would like to see a "Silver Sneakers" senior exercise program offered - I have friends who participate in other areas and they are very positive about it
- ♦ Would like to see more open space at parks for metal detecting (sic) use, both our kids love to use theirs and this keeps them away from the computers, etc. and out in the fresh air
- ♦ Wouldn't mind building it but there are to (sic) many other projects money has already been committed to